

PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT.

FIRST ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION.

Saturday, the 4th August 1931/20th Karkatakam 1109.

The Assembly met again in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Eleven of the clock, the President presiding.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Smuggling of tobacco from Cochin.

179. *MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mr. K. Thanu Pillai, B. A., Assistant Excise Commissioner, has submitted any scheme to stop smuggling of tobacco from the Cochin State ;

(b) if so, what the scheme is ;

(c) whether Government have taken any step based on that scheme ; and

(d) if not, the steps they intend to take to prevent smuggling of tobacco from Cochin State ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (a) Yes.

(b) The details of the proposals cannot be published at this stage.

(c) The matter is being considered by the Excise Commissioner.

(d) In view of the answer to part (c), this does not arise.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): May I know from the member whether the number of cases detected on the Cochin frontier is increasing or decreasing ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): There is no steady increase or steady decrease. It varies.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): May I know whether the Government have got any idea as to the quantity of tobacco smuggled into the State ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Possibly there can be no accurate idea as to the quantity that is smuggled into the State. Mr. Thanu Pillai has made a rough estimate and I do not propose to divulge it.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): May I know whether it is stated in the scheme that the staff now employed for preventing smuggling is incompetent to meet the situation?

PRESIDENT: I will not allow that question in that way. I will allow your question if you ask whether the staff is competent.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): May I know whether the staff is sufficient to meet the requirements?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): So far as the scheme is concerned, I have answered that the details of the proposals cannot be published at the present stage. The question of staff is included in that.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): May I know whether the present staff is doing sufficient work?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The present staff is doing what can be expected of them, as ordinary human beings.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): May I know the number of cases detected at the frontier in 1108?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): That does not arise as a supplementary question to this question. I have not noted it.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know the total quantity of tobacco imported into Travancore last year?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I claim notice.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether Cochin or Travancore imports more tobacco from foreign countries?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): We have not got accurate information as to the quantity of tobacco imported into Cochin.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know roughly what is the consumption of Cochin?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): There is no information apart from what Mr. Thanu Pillai has said.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvell. III*) - May I know the date of the report?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): 21st of March 1934.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether he is in the habit of receiving proposals from Assistant Excise Commissioners?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Sometimes, if any of the Assistant Excise Commissioners feel the necessity for bringing any matter to the notice of the Excise Commissioner, they send up reports thereon.

Bus fare charged by the North Travancore Motor Union.

180. *MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the rate per mile allowed by the Government for the North Travancore Motor Union to be collected by them in the Alwaye-Parur line;